G R S App [IX 4]

1942-43 Mnl File No 79-42

Previous References Mnl 1145-39,(4,5773) (Municipal

Serial Nos 18, 19, 27, 28

Later References

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

Serial Nos four

Part B for May 43

SUBJECT

Monthly reading of water Supply meters in B City instead of quarterly reading

G O no L 11546-8 Dt 28/5/43

The C. E

The Comptroller

The Mnl Commr, B City

Sanctions the proposal

HSa 16/7

Letter No 15840 Dy 27-2 43 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore D W D requesting that, for the reasons stated that the reading of the meters of the house connections may be ordered to be done monthly instead of quarterly as at present

1) The reading of meters once a quarter was ordered only on the proposal of the Executive Engineer, Water Supply Div & recommended by the Chief Engineer (Vide flag A)

2) Now the very same officer recommends that the reading may be done every month for the reasons stated

3) Submit for orders

Ulo 4/3

4) Please submit a copy of the Rules regulating the water supply to houses revised by the Govt of Mysore.

Ls 6/3/43

5) Please ascertain whether the work stated to in the last para of the C E's letter is sanctioned, & what the expenditure thereon is & whether the Executive Engr would be able to work the altered arrangement without further extra establishment if the present proposals are

Ls 6/3/43

6) submitted with a draft letter for appl

Ulo 6/3

7) Submit for sanction

Lawrence for 6/3/43

8) Issue Memo Cir 6-3-43

TVA SEC V
MAR 1943
GEN & CTI
10667 EPT
18 3 11 43

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Continuation Sheet ML File No / Current No 29 of 42-43 Page

19

Govt A 12/3 55 1 43

To The Chief Engineer of Mysore, P.W.D
No. L 9085 Dt 9-3-43
Calls for further information
From The Chief Engineer of Mysore, P.W.D
No L1195 Dt 7-5-43
Furnishes the information
a) The Chief Engineer states that the appointment of 6 extra meter readers and 6 extra ledger clerks was sanctioned in GO No P.W 51-20-21 Dt 21-1-43 at an extra cost of Rs 4176 per annum.
b) It is also stated that, with the existing & the extra staff now sanctioned, which makes a total of 12 meter readers & 12 ledger clerks, it will be possible to read the meters monthly.
c) Though the meter reading is taken monthly, it is reported that the bills will be sent quarterly for all domestic consumers

WB 11/5

vide with reference to Para 5 supra

d) As suggested by the Chief Engineer in Dec 1939, sanction was accorded to the meter readings relating to water consumption being taken in places once a quarter instead of every month. This was in vogue all along. The present proposal is to revive the monthly meter readings, bills for the water charges being however continued to be sent

Monthly reading of meters, Bi-monthly charges

Continuation Sheet | File No / Current No 6776/1 of | Page

for the Customers once a quarter. The reasons for the proposed change are given in the Chief Engineers letter dated 27.2.43 It is stated that the present establishment of 12 meter readers and ledger clerks would be sufficient to cope with the work resulting from this altered procedure

(3) Rules referred to in this connection are to rule 40 of the rules regulating water supply & sewerage, according to which the meter readings have to be taken every month. There is therefore nothing new in the proposal now made.

(4) The Chief Engr proposes to take monthly meter readings as laid down in the above rule, quarterly bills being sent for charges to the Customers. He has applied

Law secy for 18/5/43

(5) Monthly reading of meters is certainly desirable & the C.E's proposal may be sanctioned

Under Secy 14/5/43

(6) Secy 15/5/43

(7) Secy Finance 17/5/43

SECY LAW DEPT 13976 14/5/43 GOVT OF MYSORE

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR L S G & P H Date 14-5-43 No 9509

WD 1140—GPB—50 000—5-11-42

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Continuation Sheet One File No / Current No 79 of 42 Page

TYPING SECTION
19 MAY 1943
GEN SECTT

28

1) Submitted with drafts for approval
KVB
18/5

19) J Hunt
18/5/43

Re "The Chief Engineer Ely Force
The Comptroller
The O/C Comm Brigs, Two Offs
No Q115/46 & Dt 27/5/43.
Forwarding the proposal of the Ch Engineer

P38/7
Lon W
-15/7

C F No 45]

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GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Tele gram / phone

No 15840
Encls 1 Letter Copy

OFFICE OF 5798
L S C E Mysore

The Chief Engineer of Mysore,
Public Works Department,
Bangalore

Date 27/2/43

Ml 79-41-18

To

The Secretary to Government,
Law Department,
Bangalore

Sir

Subject - Bangalore Water Supply Meter Reading

Adverting to G O No L 6282/M1 145-39-5 dated the 13th January 1940 according approval to take meter readings relating to the water consumption in Bangalore City once a quarter instead of every month, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of letter No 242 dated the 4th September 1942 received from the Executive Engineer, Water Supply Division reporting certain disadvantages that has been observed as a result of experience with the quarterly Meter reading system

2 It is reported that from the consumers' stand point of view that it will help the consumers to adjust their consumption and confine themselves to the minimum fixed, as if they will be in the know of the quantity of water drawn and used by them every month From the Departmental stand point of view the examination of the meters, which can be attended to only at the time of reading, is being done once in three months and will result in lack of timely attention to their needs like oiling etc , and consequent shortening of their life Due to incessant working under pressure of water, the meters often go out of order and unless inspected and attended to at closer intervals will result in loss of revenue to Government In some cases where houses are locked when the reader visits them the inspection of meter will have to be deferred to the next quarter, and in the event of the meters not being in working order, the excess water consumed will go undected and only the average reading of the previous six months will be assumed for calculation of

consumptior

consumption resulting in loss to Government

3 As meter hire is not leviable where the meters are not working it will have to be waived for one full quarter in cases where the meter have stopped very soon after the previous reading Thus there is loss of revenue in the shape of meter hire also

4 In addition to these, heavy waste as a result of leaks in house connections due to old pipes, cracks, etc , can only be observed at the time of meter reading and under the existing system, such losses will go undetected for a period of three months at the least involving both waste and income to Government Though each of the above defects of the existing system appears trivial the cumulative loss to Government will be appreciable

5 In these circumstances, I request you to be so good as to obtain approval of Government to the revival of the monthly meter readings, the quarterly billing now in vogue being continued

6 It is expected that additional work involved by the change over the monthly readings will be attended to by the additional staff recently sanctioned by Government

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

27/2/43
Chief Engineer of Mysore

A K /24-26th

(7)

Letter No 242 dated the 4th September 1942 from the Executive Engineer, Water Supply Division, to the Chief Engineer of Mysore, ---- Bangalore

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MONTHLY READING OF METERS

With reference to your Memo No 9008 dated 25th January 1940, forwarding for information, a copy of letter No L 6282/W1 145-39-5 dated the 13th January 1940, from the Secretary to Government, Law Department, conveying approval of the proposal of the Executive Engineer to read the meters quarterly instead of monthly, as contemplated in the Revised Rules etc , I have the honour to state as follows -

From the time the quarterly system of reading domestic meters was introduced, there have been complaints from the public that they have not been able to adjust their consumption to their free allowance and that this system has been causing them considerable hardship They contend that if the readings are taken monthly, they will be better able to control their consumption to keep within their means

In many cases of abnormal readings, it has been found that the same is due to leakages traced out after the abnormal reading is noticed and this has put the consumer in great hardship, in so far as he has got to pay, though at a concession rate, for the leakage that has occured, which he has not been able to suspect Even for the Department it is not possible to say for what period there has been leakage This leads to hardship to the consumer by having to pay for water he has not used, and possible loss of revenue to the Municipality, by having to consider the leak to have been existing for the full period of three months, although there might have been real excess consumption and the leak has existed only for a few days

In the case of meters which have stopped working, as noticed at the time of reading, the average consumption of the pevious six months is being charged In many cases this procedure leads to a loss of revenue if it occurs in summer months, and an unfairly high demand on the consumer if the same occurs in the winter months

Where the meters are not working properly, it is not possible to know the same except at the time of taking quarterly readings and therefore it has not been possible to keep all the meters in proper working order for three months at a stretch, thus leading either to loss of revenue or hardship to consumers

Changes in tenancy in many houses are not brought to the notice of the department and this is invariably known only at the time of meter readings and this has led to great difficulty in the collection of excess water charges as the changes can be known only after a lapse of three long months

Most of these defects can be minimised if monthly readings are taken but bills prepared quartely As drinking water is one of the mos essential needs of the community taking priority even over food, it is very necessary that the consumers are given all the concessions possibl specially so because most of the wells have been closed

In this connection, I request your kind reference to this office No 252 dated 19th September 1941 (M No F 896 dated of Mr S Govindaswami Pillay, Malleswaram) wherein it was pointed out that it wa advisiable to take monthly readings to avoid hardships to consumers

In conclusion, I am of the opinion that the present system of taking quarterly readings for domestic consumers may be discontinued and monthly readings and quarterly billing be introduced instead as existed before This will not only relieve the consumers of the ---- difficulties experienced, but improve the revenue and minimise the office correspondence to a great extent, by the consequent decrease in the number of complaints

In

In this connection, kind reference is invited to your letter No 3952 dated 23rd September 1939 wherein it was remarked "that his proposal to take meter readings once a quarter may not work well etc "; (copy enclosed)

I may also be premitted to add that, if the proposal of taking monthly readings and quarterly billing are approved, additional staff both clerical and executive will be required to put it into effect for which separate proposal has been submitted in this office letter No 237 dated the 9th September 1942

"C O P Y"

Chief Engineer of Mysore

A K /26th

(7

Appendix F G—1]

SUBJECT

Section ML

File No 7942

Serial No 19

Diary No of letter replied to

No L 9085

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *194*

To

The Chief Engineer of Mysore,

P W D.

Date of issue 9/3

Sir,

Signed by Asst G R Rao

with reference to your letter No 15840 D 27-2-43 requesting that the reading of meters of water connection in Bangalore may be ordered to be done monthly instead of quarterly as at present, I am directed to request you ~~to be so good as~~ to state when the additional staff referred to in the last para of your letter under reply was sanctioned & what the expenditure thereon is & whether the

List of enclosures

Codied by

Examined by

WD 04161—GPB—60 000—24 10 41

Executive Engineer would be
able to work the altered arrangement
without further extra cost, if the
present proposal is sanctioned.
(with reference to the last para of this letter no. [illegible] dated [illegible])

Yours etc

for
Secy to Govt
PW Deptt

C F No 46]

GOVERNMENT OF MYSORE

Tele gram / phone

OFFICE OF

The Chief Engineer of Mysore,
P W D,
Bangalore

No 21195
Encls

Date 7-5-43

To

The Secretary to Government,
Law Department,
Bangalore

Sir

Monthly meter readings

With reference to your letter No L 9085/II 79-42-49 dated 9th March 1943, I have the honor to state that the appointment of 6 extra meter readers and 6 extra Ledger Clerks was sanctioned by Government in their order No P W 51-20-21 dated 21-1-1943 at an extra cost of Rs 4176 per annum and the Executive Engineer, Water Supply Division, reports that with the existing and the extra staff now sanctioned, which makes a total of 12 meter readers and 12 Ledger clerks, it will be possible to read the meters monthly The bills will, however, be sent quarterly for all domestic consumers

2 Orders of Government may kindly be communicated early

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

7/5/43
CHIEF ENGINEER OF MYSORE

CRS/3-5

7/5

G R S App F VI—G 2]

SUBJECT

(12

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Diary No of letter replied to

General and Revenue Secretariat

( )

the *194*

Date of issue 27/5 194

Signed by

May this be—

(i) printed ?

(ii) treated as a Standing Order

(iii) published in the Gazette English Part ?

(iv) translated ?

(v) placed at the disposal of the Press ?

(iv) published in the Gazette Kannada Part ?

Section ml

File No 7942

Serial No 28

Proceedings of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore

Read Letter No 6282/ml 145-39-5 dy 13-1-40 from the Secy to Govt, Law Deptt to the Chief Engineer of Mysore, P W D, permitting the Water Supply Division to take meter readings relating to the water ~~Order thereon. No~~ Consumption in the Bangalore city once a quarter instead of every month

(2) Correspondence ending with letter No 21195 dy 7-5-43 from the Chief Engineer of Mysore, P W D requesting,

for ~~the~~ reasons stated. that
the water Supply Division
may be permitted to take
meter readings of the water
~~Consumption~~ in
Bangalore ~~once~~ every month
instead of quarterly ~~as prescribed~~ as at present-
~~for the letter read above~~, the bills
for the water charges being however
continued to be sent to the
Consumers once a quarter as
hitherto. ~~xxx~~ and adding that the present establishment
of the meter readers & the ledger clerk employed in the water supply
Division is sufficient to cope
with the work resulting from
~~the~~ above alleged procedure

Order No 11646-8

The Proposal of the Chief
Engineer is sanctioned as ~~with reference to the remarks regarding water supply in the above~~

List of Enclosures

3

for
Secy to Govt
Law Dept
1895

To The Chief Engineer of Mysore P.W.D. ✓
The Comptroller ✓
The Ml Commr, Bang ~~Examined by~~
thro the Dy C

Copied by